Mountain Weather Forecast

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Wednesday 20 Mar 2024 until 23:59 on Thursday 21 Mar 2024

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 20 Mar 2024 at 02:49 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Low for timing of clearance of cloud cover on Wednesday afternoon. High for rain and milder weather on Thursday. Then high for a change to colder and showery weather from Friday onwards.

Headline for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024: Sleet and snow at first, drier and eventually brighter in the afternoon

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
No Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Light snow	Mist	Sleet showers	Partly cloudy (night)	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
70%	40%	20%	30%	10%	<05%

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Weather: Low cloudy with rain and sleet, snow above 700 metres to start. Gradually turning drier from the west through the morning. Cloud gradually breaking from the west in the afternoon to allow some sunny spells, but also a few scattered showers, falling as snow above 800m. Ranges west of the A9 seeing the best of the afternoon sunshine. Clear skies in the evening, but high cloud increasing at the start of the night.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10-30% in the morning, 60-80% in the afternoon, best west of the A9

Low cloud and visibility: Widely poor in the morning with cloud down to 500 to 800 metres. Much improved visibility in the afternoon as the cloud lifts and breaks from the west, but this may take some time across the Cairngorm plateau.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	6/7 S	7/8 N	8/11 N	6/9 N	7/10 W	17/22 S	29/39 S
900	3/3 SE	4/5 N	6/8 N	5/8 N	6/7 SW	16/21 S	30/38 S
600	3/4 S	2/3 NW	5/7 N	5/7 NE	3/5 NW	9/15 S	21/31 S
300	1/2 SE	1/3 NE	4/8 N	3/6 NE	2/3 NE	4/9 SW	7/19 SW
Glen	2/4 NW	3/5 N	4/8 N	3/7 N	2/5 NE	4/11 SW	6/21 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-3/-7	-3/-7	-2/-7	-2/-5	-2/-6	-2/-9	-3/-11
900	0/-1	-0/-2	1/-2	1/-1	2/-1	1/-4	2/-5
600	2/0	2/0	4/2	4/2	4/3	3/0	3/-2
300	4/3	4/3	6/5	7/6	6/5	3/2	4/1
Glen	4/3	4/4	8/7	9/8	6/6	4/2	4/1
Freezing Level*	800m	800m	900m	900m	900m	900m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Low cloud will make for navigational difficulties in the morning especially.

Forecast for Thursday 21 Mar 2024
Weather: A cloudy day with outbreaks of rain, this heaviest and most persistent in the west. The eastern Cairngorms and Monadhliath may well see a fair amount of dry weather. Very windy on the summits with severe gale or storm force winds.

Maximum wind: South to southwesterly 40 mph with gusts to 60 mph, but gusts nearer to 80 mph or more on the Cairngorm summit.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40%, best chance first thing, and more generally north of Cairngorm

Low cloud and visibility: Poor in areas of cloud down to 500 to 800 metres, lowest cloud bases around Creag Meagaidh, Ben Alder and towards Rannoch Moor where hill fog will be quite persistent and extensive. Low cloud much more broken in the sheltered northeast of the area. Cloud lifting off the tops by early evening.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 rising to 11 Celsius
At 800m: Plus 1 rising to 6 Celsius, falling to 1 Celsius after dark
Freezing level: 900 metres at first rising well above summits, falling back to 900 metres after dark

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